



# ELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## DREAM TEAM

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Friday 9th December 2016  
Visit: [www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk)

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Christmas Fair—16th Dec  
Retiree Afternoon— 20th Dec  
Christmas Lunch—21st Dec

### LETTERS HOME

Christmas Lunch— All  
Retiree Afternoon- All  
School Council—All  
Preschool and Nursery Event—Preschool/ Nursery



### CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Wednesday 21st December, is Christmas lunch and jumper day. Your child can come to school in their Christmas jumper instead of their normal school jumper. Also if you would like to order a Christmas dinner can you please return the reply slip back to school by Wednesday 14th December.

### KS1 NATIVITY



Thursday 15th December at 9:30am at St James Church and Friday 16th December at 9:30am in the infant hall. We kindly ask that the performance in the infant hall is for adults only, thank you.

### STAY AND PLAY DATES

**Tuesday 13th December:** Nursery 9-10am - Preschool 2-3pm

**Wednesday 14th December:** Reception 9-10am

**Thursday 15th December:** Reception 2-3pm

Reception parents will receive a text message to invite parents to the morning or afternoon session.

### FRIENDS OF ELTON



Raffle tickets are available from the school office for £1 a strip and will be the drawn on Friday 16th December at the Christmas fair.

### FAMILY COOKERY ON A BUDGET



From Monday 16th January to Monday 13th February, Elton children's centre are holding a family cookery on a budget course. It will run for the 5 weeks from 1pm to 3pm in Elton community centre, crèche places are available. Please call 0151 338 2227 to book a place.

### ELTON'S CHILDREN CENTRE



On Monday 19th December, Elton's children's centre are having a Christmas party from 10am-11:30am. There will be a Christmas puppet show, followed by crafts and refreshments.

### ANGIE'S KIDZ CLUB



Don't forget, if you are stuck for childcare during Christmas holidays, why not give Angies Kidz club a call. The holiday club will be open from 3rd to 6th January and Monday 9th January from 7:45am to 6pm. A full day is £26 per day and half day is £13, also there are 3 hour sessions for £8.50. Children will be kept occupied with lots of fun activities including arts and craft, baking, visiting the park and much more. To book please call 07805095781.

**THIS WEEKS WINNING TEAMS ARE DELAMERE ALL CHILDREN IN THESE TEAMS CAN WEAR THEIR OWN CLOTHES ON FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER.**

### STAR OF THE WEEK

This week's Star of the week is for 'Writing' and we would like to say congratulations to the following children:

REC : Jacob

Y3 : Alexa



Y6: Lauren

Y1 : Ethan

Y4 : Shayne



Y2 : Lucy



Y5 : Bradley

### CELEBRATE



We would like to wish Thomas (Nurs), Nedina (Y1) and Jac (Pre) a very happy birthday. We hope you all have a wonderful day.

**LUNCH MENU NEXT WEEK— 3**

# Headteacher's Blog

A rocky start to the week with one of my dogs who decided that eating 3 suet balls was a good idea – it wasn't, well not for a dog anyway, maybe for a bird but not a dog! So off to the vet at 8am Monday morning and that was how the week began! It picked up however because I had a cheque from the Thornton-le-Moors Education Fund for £300 for library books and then had another letter from The Foyle Foundation with the notification that they are giving us £4000 for the library too! I could not be happier because I spend whole days on writing bids sometimes, particularly if they are for large sums of money, and when they come to fruition it is SO rewarding! I do it all for the benefit of our children, however, and that is the driving force behind each and every decision we make here at school.

I was then super impressed with Scarlett (Y5) who brought in her medals and photographs to show me from a recent gymnastics competition, The Wire Christmas Extravaganza, in which she won gold! Keep at it Scarlett! Also I would like to congratulate Jessica (Y5) who received a certificate for completing Archery Beginners Course.

Mrs Kinnear did the Monday assembly about the Birth of Jesus, it is that time when we discuss existential issues such as this in a child friendly way. Mrs Kinnear enjoyed her last whole school assembly and the children all did too.

I then had the pleasure of finalising details of the Christmas Fair with Mrs Wright, who had just received her letter from the Governors welcoming her onto the board as a co-opted governor. I am sure that she will work as hard for the Governors and the school as she does for the Parish Council and the PTA and welcome her on board. I am also very much looking forward to welcoming Lynsey Roberts, our other co-opted Governor on board in person in the next week. Our Governors work tirelessly for our school benefit and give me a great deal of challenge and support on all aspects of life in school, which is almost as thankless as the job of a Headteacher as we still get stick from the Government! I really appreciate all that they do, and as I say, am very excited to work with two new governors to develop our school even further.

Tuesday saw all but a couple of children attend the panto! All thoroughly enjoyed it and it gets us started in the Christmas spirit! Talking of which, A Christmas Carol, by Dickens, still has the best message about Christmas I think I have seen, despite it being over a hundred years old. It is a morality tale like so many of the author's works. Not only is this a story about the old miser, Ebenezer Scrooge, but it is also about society and the responsibility society has to take care of its poor. Charles Dickens gave a new meaning to the Christmas celebration when he wrote *A Christmas Carol*. It is a story of redemption. Scrooge is given a chance to redeem himself with the help of Jacob Marley who gives him warning and an opportunity to change his way of living. Scrooge is a rich, miserly man who does not feel connected to anyone or anything except his money. Dickens uses the Cratchit family to highlight what a real family is, full of love, caring and kindness. Even though they are materially poor they are rich compared to Scrooge. When it came out it was an instant hit. People in England began to view Christmas celebrations more as family occasions and of reaching out to the needy in society. Charles Dickens is credited with redefining how we all celebrate Christmas! Dickens, helped to shape the celebration into a family event that involved thanksgiving for God's blessings in one's life. Whether you believe in God or not, it is a good message, to share with family and think of others at this time of year. If you can do a good deed – do one.

All of the staff have undergone a big internal project where they have observed each other teaching and talked with me about what they have learned from the process and how it can help them. They will do this again next term and it is proving to be such a brilliant tool to enhance what is already an exceptional teaching team. Ofsted told us at our last inspection that continuing with the practice, as we have done it since I arrived, was the only way really of us doing anything remotely better with our teaching staff as they were all so good! It keeps all of our innovation alive as staff see different ways of teaching and different strategies being used. Bravo to all of our staff because I know that in many many schools staff do not open up their practice for anyone else!

On Wednesday I filled in another bid.... More information on another day....

And Thursday I watched reception teach RE Mrs Roberts is so brilliant with them and her team are second to none. I am especially excited to see some of our youngest tots in school do the Nativity play next week, it was so lovely last year and I am sure that this year will be no exception.

We have 2 weeks left in school to go, I know that both you and your children will be exhausted by the end and would like your feedback on whether you would like to collect your child at 1:15pm on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> as so many of you have asked if we will, in line with many other schools. This is your decision I am afraid so I am asking for your feedback by Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December so that we can share the decision with Governors and get the final word out by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December to give everyone time to make arrangements.

I am in church on Sunday in Thornton-Le-Moors with our choir if anyone wants to join us. Have a lovely, restful weekend.